

Greetings:



Anthony L. Holloman

State is shining brightly in all fields of human endeavor. SC State is on a journey to greatness, and with continued support of alumni and friends, we will reach our destination.

In this issue of our *FOCUS* newsletter, I'm sure you will be enlightened by the many initiatives and programs which took place this summer on the SC State campus, thanks to your continued support. For example, we were privileged to have Gen. Colin L. Powell visit the University and deliver a significant message that will forever resonate with our graduates, current students and prospective students who visited Oliver C. Dawson Stadium during our Spring

Commencement. He will forever be immortalized in our ROTC Hall of Fame, along with the Bulldog Battalion and our 15 general officers, thanks to the efforts of alumni like Gen. George Price..

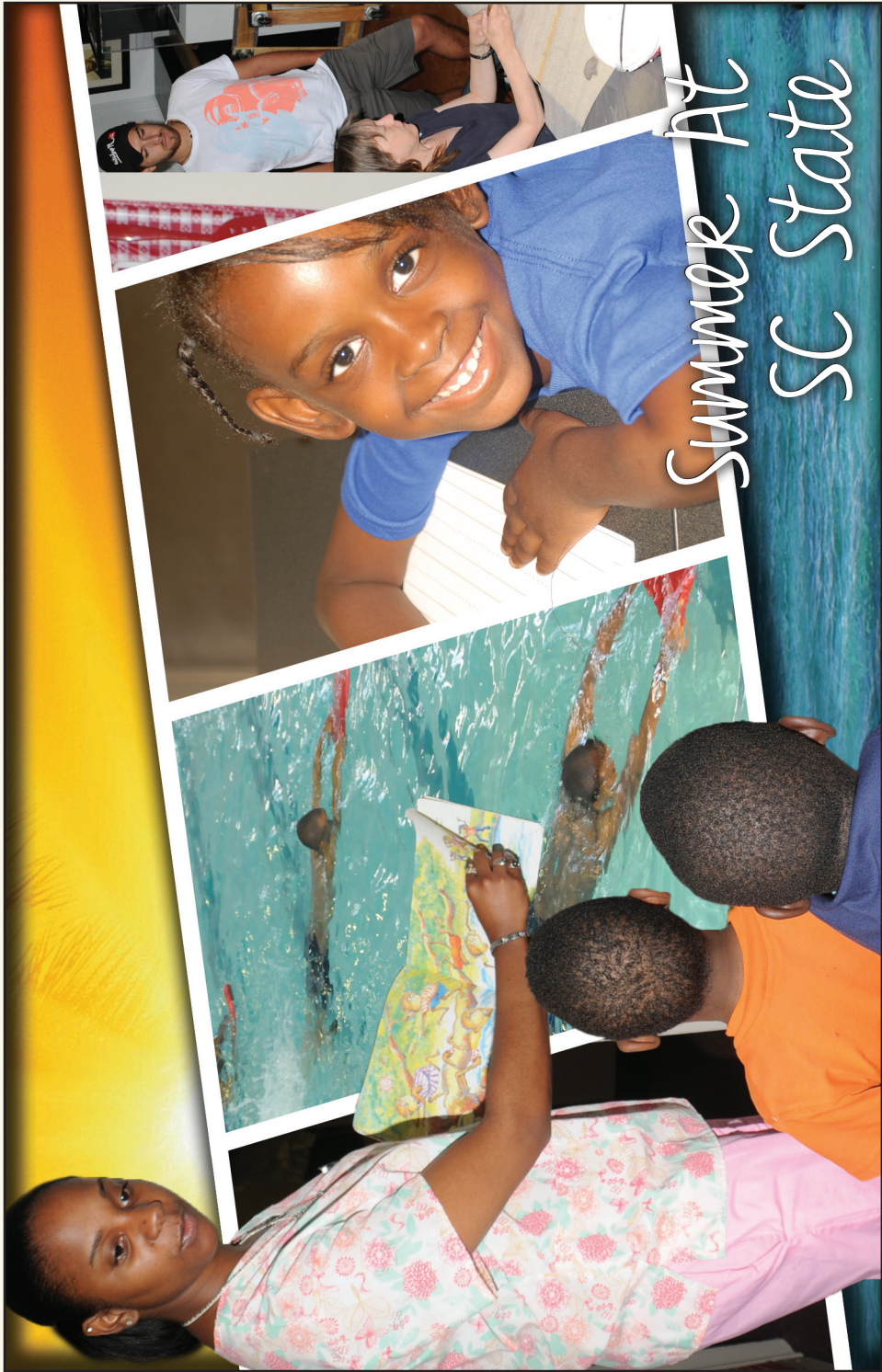
In addition to Gen. Powell's visit and the many summer camps which took place, we also strive to develop our resources for athletics through your investment of the Bulldog Wall. With a continued decline in state appropriations, we hope to obtain your support in continuing a stellar program. Without you, our progress will be hampered.

I must say that I'm honored to serve as vice president for Institutional Advancement at SC State University, and I do not take lightly the awesome responsibilities bestowed upon me. As you can see from this summer *FOCUS*, we have achieved much, but challenges lie ahead as our institution continues to grow. However, if we work together towards a common vision of greatness, we can achieve anything.

Sincerely,

Anthony L. Holloman
Vice President, Institutional Advancement
Executive Director, SCSU Foundation

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inside this issue

- o SC State Alumnus Nominated Brigadier General
- o High School Students Adopt New Language During World Languages and Cultures Summer Camp
- o Gen. Colin L. Powell Offers Resonating Message during SC State University's Spring Commencement

Become a Part of SC State University's Latest Showpiece

by Tameka Kenan

Just imagine-your name etched in SC State University's Oliver C. Dawson Stadium, home to athletes who have persevered, home to coaches who have led our teams to victory and home to thousands of patrons, fans and SC State alumni who will witness your name for years to come. According to Anthony Holloman, vice president for Institutional Advancement at SC State University, the institution's latest fundraising effort, the Bulldog Wall Fund, will give SC State supporters the opportunity to have their names engraved on individual bricks that will be placed on the Bulldog Wall at Oliver C. Dawson Stadium.

"One of the things that was important to us was to find a way to create resources to support our athletics facilities," says Holloman. "Clearly the greatest expense would lie in the maintenance of the surface of the football stadium." Therefore, Holloman, former coach and chairperson for the Bulldog Wall campaign, Willie Jeffries, and the athletics department at SC State have undergone the Bulldog Wall initiative with the initial goal of selling 500 bricks at \$500 per brick, ultimately raising \$250,000 by Homecoming. Currently, the University has raised nearly \$20,000 for the campaign, and Jeffries hopes that the reputation of Bulldog football will propel citizens to help the University surpass their goal.

"We have so many great true fans of the Bulldogs, and it will give them a chance to show their support, and more than that, it would raise money so that we can have a first class football team and a first class athletics department," says Jeffries. "Hopefully I can be a catalyst to a successful wall by urging our former athletes and all of our true fans to buy a brick and to be recognized."

If the University exceeds their goal, there will be a second phase for an additional Bulldog Wall. "If there's a desire from other individuals to get involved who could not be the first 500 people to get bricks then we will have a second phase, so it will really be driven by numbers," says Holloman.

Your engraved brick must be reserved by Thursday, Sept. 1, 2011. The Bulldog Wall will be unveiled during SC State's Homecoming. For more information, call (803) 536-8143.

SC State University

Oliver C. Dawson Stadium



Support SC State University's "Bulldog Wall" Fund

Get your name engraved on the "Bulldog Wall," the new showpiece for Oliver C. Dawson Stadium

Personalized bricks are \$500

Make your reservation by Sept. 1, 2011

For more information, call (803) 536-8143



Gen. Colin L. Powell Offers Resonating Message during SC State University's Spring Commencement

by Ashley Elliott

"Always remember, it's not where you start in life, but where you end up." This impactful message was echoed by Gen. Colin L. Powell USA (Ret), and left resonating in the hearts and minds of 450 graduates during SC State University's Commencement Convocation on Friday, May 6, 2011.

After being inducted as the first honorary member of the Bulldog Battalion ROTC Hall of Fame, the retired four-star general delivered a dynamic speech to a sea of family members, friends, the SC State University family and the "phenomenal class of 2011," as he described the graduates that filled Oliver C. Dawson Stadium.



Gen. Colin L. Powell USA (Ret)

"This is a remarkable day for you, and years from now when memories start to fade, there's some things that happened in the past few days or week that will always bring you back to this day," he said, describing such historic events as the royal wedding, the application of John Paul, the assassination of Osama Bin Laden and President Barack Obama's release of his birth certificate.

While noting the importance of these events, he jokingly urged the graduates not to forget one important detail about that night. "I'm worried that with all of that you might forget who your commencement speaker was. That's P-O-W-E-L-L and don't ya'll forget that," he humorously expressed.

Delivering a message of triumph and success, Powell told of his humble beginnings as a native of Harlem, raised in the South Bronx section of New York City. Upon graduating from Morris High School, he attended the City College of New York (CCNY). While there, he says he was not considered one of CCNY's most promising students.

"It took me four and a half years to get through school, two changes of major, and the only way I got out of there was that I got straight A's in ROTC for four years. They rolled those straight A's into my grade. I got a 2.0 (GPA) and they said get out, get out while you can," he laughed. "The faculty was happy to see me go, hoped the Army could make something out of me and said goodbye with a sigh of relief," he said as the stadium filled with laughter. "Now of course I am considered one of the greatest sons CCNY has ever had. So those of you that are not graduating with a 3.8 or better, have faith my young friends, have faith." While he may not have thrived in his college setting, Powell dominated the military sector which he thoroughly enjoyed and was an obvious sign that he was moving in the right direction. "I loved the Army. I was a professional soldier and I was a good soldier," he said. Recalling his successful path, Powell shared that while in Vietnam he served as captain and was privileged to meet SC State alumnus and Gen. George Price, '51. "George was an example to me of being what an officer meant. He was a professional. He looked the part and he watched over me. We began a friendship that has now lasted over a century," he reflected. "What he gave me he had given to thousands of other young soldiers over the years and I thank George for that, and I thank South Carolina State for producing George and all others."

Powell went on to discuss his appointment as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He was the first ROTC graduate from CCNY to attain such a prestigious position. "Perform and you go places; don't perform then you won't," he noted. "But I didn't need to go to the top. I didn't need to become chairman to be a success in my chosen profession. I

just needed to know that I had done my best every single day. That was the real satisfaction in my life. Not promotions but knowing that I was doing the best I possibly could."

This was Powell's charge to the graduates. "Leave here and perform," he stressed. "No matter what your path is you have to perform to get ahead, and what helped me to do that was I was doing something that I loved."

2011 physics graduate, Ashley Graham, is an example of someone who consistently performs, doing what she loves. Prior to becoming Miss SC State University for the 2010-2011 academic years, she served as queen during her freshman, sophomore and junior years, making history as the first queen to ever accomplish such a feat.

"Every since I've come to SC State, we've had people telling us you have to perform so Gen. Powell's message was a familiar phrase. To me it meant performing in your best capacity."

In fall 2011, Graham will live out Powell's concluding message when she "goes forth inspired and performs her duty to serve the nation," as she pursues a career in health physics.



Ashley Graham, '11



Gen. Colin L. Powell Inducted Into SC State's ROTC Hall of Fame

by Tameka Kenan

As Gen. Colin L. Powell USA (Ret) walked into the John W. Matthews 1890 Extension Auditorium on the SC State campus, the poker face that he normally exhibits when speaking on military issues and national politics, transitioned into a smiling one when SC State's Lt. Col. Derrick Corbett, professor of military science, presented him with a plaque and inducted Gen. Powell into the University's ROTC Hall of Fame, an honor bestowed upon Army ROTC Battalion graduates and other individuals, including those who have made significant contributions to society, or in Gen. Powell's case, have achieved national prominence.

Gen. Powell's prominence was not expected, however, as he was an average student at the City College of New York. But, after finding his passion with the ROTC, he was given a sense of discipline and purpose and decided to pursue the military as a career, contributing the time and effort to serve his country.

"Success is doing the best for your society, your organization," stated Gen. Powell to the audience who witnessed first-hand his induction into the University's Hall of Fame. "What have you contributed to your society, your organization? Have you done your best every day? If you do that, other forms of success will arrive."

Living by that belief, Powell served 35 years in the United States Army, assuming positions such as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff,

national security advisor to President Reagan, a key aide to the Secretary of Defense and Secretary of State. Although these are deemed highly influential, Powell, a humble South Bronx native, noted that success isn't a position that is obtained in life but is rather what you do every single day.



Gen. Colin L. Powell USA (Ret) receives a proclamation from Lt. Col. Derrick Corbett during SC State's Induction Ceremony.

Cadets, alumni, students and administrators in attendance seemed to admire a man who has continued to contribute to his community consistently, becoming the founder and chairman emeritus of the America's Promise Alliance, dedicated to forging a strong and effective partnership alliance which ensures that children have the fundamental resources needed to succeed. His other involvement includes membership in the Board of Directors of the United Negro College Fund and prior service on the Board of Governors of the Boys and Girls Clubs of America and previous membership on the Advisory Board of the Children's Health Fund.

"It is a distinguished honor to have Gen. Colin L. Powell on the campus of SC State University," stated Corbett. It is also an honor for him to be inducted in our ROTC Hall of Fame. It is Gen. Powell's tenets of service and commitment to the community that will provide an example for our future leaders of tomorrow."

Orangeburg-Wilkinson High School graduate “wins” SC State’s USDA/1890 Scholarship

by Dervedia Thomas

Winners practice until they get it right, but champs practice until they cannot get it wrong. This is the mantra of Orangeburg-Wilkinson High School (Orangeburg, S.C.) graduate Deondre Glover, the 2011 USDA/1890 National Scholar selected to attend SC State University.

Like a champ, Glover secured over \$100,000 in a scholarship award and other benefits as a recipient of the scholarship. The award includes annual tuition and fees, books, room and board, and the use of a laptop computer, a printer and software while on scholarship for each of the four academic years. The scholar will also be given a summer internship for each academic year and guaranteed career placement with the U.S. Department of Agriculture after successful completion of his bachelor’s degree.

“I feel very happy and excited about winning this scholarship and attending SC State,” said Glover. “Being smart pays off,” he added.

Salutatorian of Orangeburg-Wilkinson’s Class of 2011, Glover graduated with a grade point average (GPA) of 3.8 (on a 4.0 GPA scale) in the International Baccalaureate program. His long list of accomplishments also includes acceptance into the 1100 Club at his high school (admitted by scoring 1100 or more on the SAT), recipient of the 2010 University of South Carolina Upstate Junior



Deondre Glover

Scholarship and recipient of the Newberry College Outstanding Leader award. Glover, who refers to himself as an athlete that excels in the classroom, was also the captain of his high school basketball, track and soccer teams.

Glover has also been involved in several volunteer activities including Adopt a Highway, various mentorship programs and Beautify the Bruins Den project. The aspiring civil engineer also explored his interests by interning with the engineering firm Palmetto Associates for Instruction, Research, Design and Development, LLP, SC State University’s James E. Clyburn University Transportation Center and the Orangeburg County Area Development Center.

The USDA/1890 National Scholars Program (NSP) is intended to strengthen the long-term partnership between the USDA and the 1890 land-grant universities, increase the number of students

studying agriculture, food, natural resource sciences or other related disciplines and offer career opportunities to USDA/1890 National scholars at the USDA.

Graduating high school seniors with a combined SAT score of 1000 or more, or 21 on the ACT and at least a 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 GPA scale are eligible to apply. Glover was one of 33 students to apply for the USDA/1890 scholarship at SC State. The applicants had to meet the eligibility requirements and submit a complete application package.

“The NSP at SC State has awarded full scholarships to more than 25 deserving high school seniors since its inception at SC State University,” said USDA/1890 agricultural liaison officer Jozette Young. “These scholars selected a variety of agricultural related disciplines, such as accounting, agribusiness, biology, civil engineering, computer science, marketing and nutrition and food management.”

Glover will join SC State’s three other USDA/1890 scholars who are already experiencing the advantages of the scholarship program. These students are senior civil engineering major Sirrena Favors; junior biological sciences major Kenyatta Lawyer and sophomore biological sciences major Talia Harper.

As part of the scholarship program, an agency within the USDA selects potential scholars and supports and trains him or her while the scholar pursues an undergraduate degree, noted Young. She explained that Glover’s supporting agency, the U.S. Forest Service, selected him because of his academic achievements and his chosen field of study. She added that careers in agriculture are applicable to students from a wide range of majors.

One recent example is 2011 SC State graduate Russell Simon who earned a bachelor’s degree in accounting. The former USDA/1890 National scholar at SC State is now pursuing a career as a resident agent (accountant/auditor) for the USDA’s Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration in Columbia, MO.

“When people think of agriculture, they generally think of producing crops and raising livestock, not the science and business aspects of agriculture,” said Young. “Agriculture is not just farming, but includes so many careers from farm-to-fork and from field-to-fabric.”

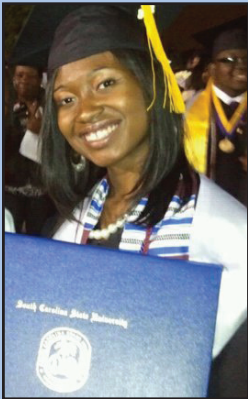
Like many scholar programs at SC State, the NSP helps to recruit outstanding students to the University, particularly well-rounded students who might otherwise not consider an agriculture related discipline. Without this opportunity, Glover said he would have had to seek other scholarships and financial aid to pay for his education.

The Orangeburg native, who looks forward to attending SC State, will get an earlier start than most incoming Bulldogs. He began his studies this summer in the South Carolina Alliance for Minority Participant (SCAMP) Summer Bridge Program, which promotes academic excellence in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields for minority undergraduate students.

Preparation Means Opportunity for Recent SC State graduates

by Tameka Kenan

Twenty-one year old Brittany Burgess can talk for hours about computer science. Although she often forgets to put the information in layman’s terms, one can easily tell that Burgess is adamant about pursuing a career in the field. When asked, “why are you so excited about computer science,” the SC State alumna answers, “since childhood I’ve had a fascination with the computer science field and now I finally get the opportunity to have a career in something that I enjoy.” It’s also a huge incentive that Burgess began work in the field at the end of this month.



Brittany Burgess, ‘11

In a strife economy, Burgess, a May 2011 SC State graduate, along with Jared Murph, Carlos Mole and Brian Collins, three additional May graduates from the computer science program at the University, have begun work with the strategy and technology consulting firm, Booz Allen Hamilton. Based in McLean, Va., Booz Allen’s recruiter, James Cotten, recently visited the University to find students interested in Java, systems development, coding, strategic technology programming and cyber security. Cotten’s interest in SC State was peaked after meeting with Career Center director, Joseph Thomas, and after



(l-r) Jared Murph and Carlos Mole (Not pictured) Brian Collins

recruiting one of the four May 2011 graduates, Jared Murph. Preparation meant opportunity for Murph and his three fellow graduates.

“Jared participated in our Booz Allen cyber cohort internship program,” said Cotten. “Jared participated in this program with individuals from Perdue University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Polytechnic University and Indiana State University. He was the only student from a Historically Black College or University (HBCU) and he did really well.”

The key factor in students prospering at Booz Allen, according to Cotten, are the four functional capabilities by which their program is broken down, to include analytics, technology, operations and strategy, allowing workers to maneuver within a team environment. “One of the things that individuals love is the ability to work across different functional capabilities and to learn outside of their norm or outside of what their major focus was in school,” said Cotten.

Murph, who began his permanent job with the company on July 25, 2011, agrees. Murph enjoyed the team atmosphere and the flexibility that Booz Allen offered him on various projects. “I was on the cloud computing team,” said Murph. “I created Red Hat Enterprise Linux 5 and Windows 7 virtual machines, and then I installed Outlook and Microsoft Word on these machines and converted them into templates that could be used on any machine,” noted Murph. “Plus, I was on the cyber cohort team which deals with cyber security, meaning that if someone tries to hack into the network, we find ways to make the system more secure. People see this in the movies, but it really happens.” Murph’s diligent work within the cyber cohort gained him a number of industry recognized technical certifications.

Murph’s summer experience with Booz Allen is one motivating factor for Burgess’ enthusiasm over her first full-time opportunity. The Kingstree, S.C. native says the company has many factors that differentiate it from other organizations that she has worked for in the past. “One determining factor about Booz Allen is that they actually work collectively with their clients and they seem to adapt a personal relationship among each other,” stated Burgess. “In my previous internships, I didn’t have the chance to test the waters. My primary focus was only programming code. Here, you get to go out of your element, talk to your clients and develop and learn new ideas.” Murph and Burgess credit networking and SC State for their

SC State Alumnus Nominated Brigadier General

by Antia Dawkins

Since its establishment in 1947, SC State University’s Army ROTC has developed 15 general officers. Following in the footsteps of these 15 gentlemen, Col. Bruce Crawford was recently nominated for the leading position of brigadier general. Crawford was truly humbled when he received the great news.

“Being selected to join the general officer ranks has truly been a humbling experience, especially when you take into account the groundwork and efforts of so many people over the past 25 years that have made this all possible,” says Crawford. “My initial reaction was the recognition that my family and I have truly been blessed, based on the realization that there are many qualified officers who could have been selected,” declares Crawford.

It was Crawford’s family principles that he kept throughout his life which positioned him for leadership. Raised by an encouraging single-parent mother in Columbia, S.C. who taught him and his other three siblings the importance of a sense of self-worth, Crawford had a desire to strive for more. His father, a veteran, taught him the importance of education and the value of self-discipline and character. His grandparents, who could barely read or write, placed in Crawford values and morals to live by. “I was always taught to treat people with dignity and respect, regardless of their station in life or class,” says Crawford. As the oldest of four siblings, Crawford has always led by example.

Crawford first heard of SC State University through his high school instructor, Clarence W. Hill, who now serves as an assistant professor of electrical engineering at SC State. Hill became a friend and mentor to Crawford. “Clarence W. Hill, an army veteran, was the first to mention the Army ROTC program and electrical engineering as an option at the University. He instilled in me that by enrolling in the Army ROTC program I was a part of something much greater than myself,” declares Crawford. “It gave me and many others a sense of immense pride in the Army ROTC program and our history.”

Armed with knowledge and equipped for leadership, SC State’s Army ROTC Bulldog Battalion prepared Crawford for what was to come. “My time at SC State University as a member of the Army ROTC program shaped my thinking and laid the foundation for my overall outlook on leadership as a commissioned officer in the US Armed Forces,” says Crawford.

Based on the incomparable leadership and the foundation that was implemented from three Bulldog Battalion alumni, including Lt. Col. Chris Jenkins (Ret), Maj. Gen. Abraham Turner (Ret) and Col. Ted Bowden (Ret), Crawford learned that you have to strive for excellence and that you have to earn respect; nothing would be given to you in the Bulldog Battalion. “The professional example that they set permeated throughout the entire Army ROTC Bulldog Battalion. There was a feeling that regardless of where you started, or your commissioning source, you are as good as any other Army ROTC program throughout the country,” says Crawford.

Thanks to the diligent efforts of Crawford and the motivation from those around him, after graduating from Lower Richland High School located in Hopkins, S.C., Crawford received his Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering and was commissioned as a Distinguished Military Army ROTC graduate at SC State University in 1986. Upon completion of the Signal Officers Basic Course and the U.S. Army Ranger School, Crawford was assigned to the 440th Signal Battalion, 22nd Signal Brigade and V Corps in Darmstadt, Germany where he served



Col. Bruce Crawford, '86

Continue on page 3

Continue on page 3

Discovering Agriculture through History

Summer boarding camp exposes teens to careers in agriculture

by Dervedia Thomas

Teens from across the country took a peek inside America’s agricultural past on June 13 while visiting Freewoods Living Farm Museum located in Myrtle Beach, S.C. The 40-acre living farm museum hosted 16 high school students who were selected to participate in the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) AgDiscovery, the federal agency’s summer enrichment program, which SC State University’s 1890 Research & Extension Program hosted on the campus. At the historical property, participants from as far as Florida, Idaho and Utah were immersed in a replication of life on a small farm owned and operated by freed slaves between the years 1865 and 1900.

Dressed in traditional denim overalls and a straw hat, Freewoods Foundation President, O’Neal Smalls, explained to students that farming was the primary profession of African Americans after slavery.

“Newly freed slaves had no land, no money, no formal education or place to go,” he said. “As a result, three sympathetic white men made small tracks of land available to African Americans which they paid for with rice grown on the estate. The land was given the name Freewoods because African Americans were no longer enslaved.”

Smalls added that the second and subsequent generations of these new land owners acquired more and more land in the area and expanded the farms’ operations. These farms, he said, paid for the construction of black churches and contributed to the building of black schools, which included the Rosenwald Schools which educated African Americans in the south.

Today, Freewoods Farm engages in agritourism, an alternative way for agriculture entrepreneurs to generate income from their agricultural endeavors by encouraging tourists to visit farms for recreational or educational purposes. The AgDiscovery students had the opportunity to view agritourism in action through a tour of the living museum, which exposed them to authentic farming methods of the period, crops cultivated on an animal-powered estate and replicas of farm buildings and farmhouses adorned with furniture relevant to that time.

The goal of AgDiscovery is to help students learn about careers in agriculture including animal science, veterinary medicine, agribusiness, plant pathology, forestry, ag-education, agriculture extension education and ag-marketing. According to the camp’s coordinator, Dr. Christopher C. Mathis Jr., agriculture is a profitable industry which offers numerous career opportunities.

“This camp serves as an opportunity to counteract the myth that agriculture is just digging in the dirt,” he said. “Agriculture in South Carolina alone is a 30 million dollar industry, and it is still growing. Our forefathers had the propensity to farm and, as a result, they built most of the south. In an age where many persons do not know how to farm or create a garden, Freewoods showed students that agriculture was and still is relevant to American society by using education and entertainment to generate income in a tourist area like Myrtle Beach, while still practicing its core function,” continued Mathis, who is also a senior research director for the 1890 Research Center of Agricultural Systems, Food Production, Safety and Security.

“This trip was eye opening for me,” said student participant Kalya Burns from Fruitland, ID. “I really want to be a veterinarian, but now I know how many paths I can take with this field.”

The program, which ran for the second time at SC State, allowed participants to live on the campus and learn about agriculture-related fields from University professors, practicing veterinarians and professionals working for the U.S. Government. Students gained experience through hands-on activities at the U.S. Vegetable Laboratory in Charleston S.C., where they learned about various fruits and vegetables and the Clemson Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory in Pickens County, S.C, where they conducted mock diagnostic testing of artificial demonstration chickens. Additionally, students attended workshops on financial management, interviewing skills and learned how to operate GPS and other navigational tools. Fun field trips included going behind the scenes at Carowinds Theme Park in Charlotte, N.C. and the Riverbank Zoo and Gardens in Columbia, S.C.

This outreach program also included a teambuilding component. At the end of the camp, students were required to convert their daily journals into a team portfolio and Power Point presentation which helped reinforce the lessons they learned. The top three teams each received a trophy for outstanding presentation.

AgDiscovery is sponsored through the USDA - Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service - Marketing and Regulatory Programs Business Services, the USDA division that protects and promotes the health and value of American agriculture and natural resources.

For more information on the AgDiscovery Program, sponsored by SC State’s 1890 Research & Extension Program, contact Dr. Mathis at cmathis@scsu.edu or (803) 536-8974.

“Una Maravillosa Oportunidad”

High School Students Adopt New Language During World Languages and Cultures Summer Camp

by Ashley Elliott

“Muy Bien, gracias. Cómo está usted?” responds 15 year-old Megan Warren fluently in Español when asked how she was doing today. Warren, along with nine other high school students from across the state of South Carolina, learned this Spanish phrase along with many others during the fourth annual World Languages and Cultures Summer Camp recently held at SC State University.

Sponsored by Title III and SC State’s Department of English and Modern Languages, in conjunction with the I.P. Stanback Museum and Planetarium, the two-week campamento de verano (summer camp) exposes high school juniors and seniors to the Spanish language and Hispanic cultures, while introducing them to the college environment.

Program director, Dr. Ruben Silvestry, says the camp heightens interest and knowledge of other countries and cultures, which helps to create future global opportunities for youth. “The more young people are exposed to progressive ideas, the better it will be for everyone because we create ambassadors in favor of learning and branching outside of their normal learning environment,” expressed Silvestry.

In addition to learning various Spanish phrases, participants were encouraged to showcase their creativity through music, media and artistic expressions. Warren, whose pottery pot was deemed the second best in the class, says she was unaware of the originators of such unique art forms. “I didn’t know that the Mayans and Incas started making pottery and pinch pots. That was a great history lesson for me because I always thought it was the Chinese who produced those,” she says.

Rising SC State senior and dual biology and Spanish major, Ebonie Fuller, served as camp advisor for the first year and says she gained yet another experience that will help her with future endeavors. “I never worked with a Spanish camp before

so it provided something new and taught me more things about the culture itself.” Fuller, who also started learning the Spanish language while in high school, adds that it’s important for youth to grasp hold of the culture while the opportunity presents itself. “Spanish is a part of America now, so it’s important that you at least know some kind of Spanish. Knowing it makes you a better rounded person and you never know when it will come in use,” she says.

This has proven true for her on various occasions. “I volunteered at an emergency room and had to speak Spanish because many people in the area we lived in didn’t speak English,”



High school students participate during the World Languages and Cultures Summer Camp.

she notes. Upon graduating from SC State University, Fuller says she will continue to utilize her knowledge to help others. “I plan on enrolling in medical school to become a pediatrician. I’m sure I will have clients that speak other languages and I want to be able to assist them in whatever way I can.”

Despite the ending of the camp, Warren says she continues to practice and utilize the newly acquired words she recently added to her English vocabulary. As a result of her camp experience, she’s even contemplating doing something in the fall that she has never thought of before. “I will probably take Spanish next year. Since I know a little bit of Spanish I will probably be ahead of the other kids.”

The Ridgeville, S.C. native adds that she will definitely return next year and shares that outside of creating her Spanish pottery pot and enjoying the delicious Hispanic cuisine, she most enjoyed living on campus and meeting different people, her newfound amigas.

“I never had an experience like that and I’m pretty shy so I wanted to get out and do it and see what happened,” she says. “It was a great experience and everyone kept in touch after the camp. I even made new friends.”

SUCCESS continued from page 2

as a platoon leader and company executive officer from 1987 to 1990.

Upon graduation from the Signal Officers Advanced Course at Fort Gordon, Ga., he was assigned to the 35th Signal Brigade and XVIII Airborne Corps located in Fort Bragg, N.C. where he served as an operations officer. He also served in the XVIII Airborne Corps G6 and acted as commander, Bravo Company, 51st Signal Battalion, 35th Signal Brigade (Corps, Airborne) from 1990 to 1993. He was then assigned to the Joint Communications Support Element (JCSE), MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa, Fla., where he served as chief of plans and network engineering from 1993 to 1996.

Subsequent to the completion of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, Kan., in 1997, he was assigned to Headquarters for the 82nd Airborne Division, located in Fort Bragg, N.C., serving as the assistant division signal officer/deputy G6 and later as the executive officer, 82nd Signal Battalion. In 1999, Crawford was assigned to U.S. Army Personnel Command located in Alexandria, Va. where he served as both the lieutenant colonel and colonel assignments officer until 2002.

While Crawford has many other numerous positions that make him worthy of the nomination, his most recent assignment was chief at the Landwarnet Space and Networks Division, Office of the Chief Information Officer/Army G6. He is currently director for the Chief of Staff’s Planning Group in the Office of the Army Chief of Staff.

Crawford’s civilian and military education also includes a Master of Arts degree in administration from Central Michigan University (1997) and a Master of Science degree in national resource strategy from the Industrial College of the Armed forces (ICAF) (2007). He is a graduate of the Signal Officers Basic and Advanced Courses, the U.S. Army Airborne School, the U.S. Army Advanced Airborne School, the U.S. Army Ranger School, the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College and the Industrial College of the Armed Forces. He is currently director for the Chief of Staff’s Planning Group in the Office of the Army Chief of Staff.

Spanning over 25 years, Crawford’s many developmental positions have prepared him for the nomination as brigadier general. “I approached every position with the mind-set that I would work hard, have fun and leave the organization in better condition than it was when I found it. I have been extremely fortunate to have worked for and with some very talented, and more importantly, some very patient peers, subordinates and leaders who were influential in every developmental position I’ve held in my career,” says Crawford.

Crawford’s awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star Medal, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal (one oak leaf cluster), the Meritorious Service Medal (three oak leaf clusters), the Army Commendation Medal (one oak leaf cluster), the Army Achievement Medal (three oak leaf clusters), the Iraqi Campaign Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, the Joint Meritorious Unit Award, the Combat Action Badge, the Master Parachutists Badge and the Ranger Tab.

Crawford is married to the former Dianne Lynn Reed, a 1986 alumna of SC State University, and a special education teacher in Prince William County, Va. According to Crawford, she has contributed significantly to his success in every major assignment. “Dianne has a passion for caring for soldiers and their families; I would not be in this position without her efforts”. They have two sons, Bruce II, 21, an ROTC scholarship cadet at Christopher Newport University located in Newport News, Va. and Corey, 14.

GRADUATES continued from page 2

opportunity. “SC State prepared me a lot as far as core classes, learning how to work with people and learning diversity,” stated Burgess. “The Career Center was great with interviewing and resume building.” In fact, Burgess gives significant praise to her Career Center specialist, Sherry Mack-Michael. Mack-Michael notes that the Career Center is consistently available to assist students in preparing for their prospective careers. “We offer guidance to students from their freshmen through their senior years,” stated Mack-Michael. “We are here to ensure that students get the best preparation so that they may flourish in this highly competitive global society.”

Thomas says that it is ultimately the student’s effort that gives them an opportunity, even in an ailing economy. “We are here to assist students with the necessary connections for employment that are synonymous with their training,” stated Thomas. “However, a student who is prepared, attends class regularly and begins to look for jobs early will almost always find an opportunity that they will enjoy. We are proud of all of these students and wish them the very best in their future endeavors.”

For more information on a career with Booz Allen, contact the SC State University Career Center at (803) 536-7033 or visit the company website at www.boozallen.com.